

COAC ONE U.S. GOVERNMENT AT THE BORDER SUBCOMMITTEE

General Description

Objective/Goal of the subcommittee

The primary objective/goal of the Subcommittee is to implement the January 15, 2013 COAC 12th Term Recommendation: *That CBP pursue interagency partnership programs following the principles and standards set forth in the One US Government Master Principles Document and progress toward completion can be measured via CBP reporting quarterly back to COAC on progress being made to implement programs that align with these principles, principally through the Border Interagency Executive Council (BIEC).*

The purpose of the above stated objective is to lower costs, increase competitiveness and increase ease of doing business, utilize as much of the current system design that is existing ensuring that a modern business model is being used for importing goods into the United States.

Where does it fit in our trade transformation strategy?

One U.S. Government at the Border (IUSG) Subcommittee: addresses six of CBP's guiding principles for our trade transformation strategy: Modernization, Consistency & Harmonization, Co-Creation, Bi-Directional Education and the development of a Comprehensive Trusted Trader Program.

IUSG Import Mapping Working Group: Consistency & Harmonization, Modernization, Co-Creation and Bi-Directional Education.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Working Group: Modernization, Consistency & Harmonization, Co-Creation, Bi-Directional Education and the development of a Comprehensive Trusted Trader Program.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Working Group: Bi-Directional Education, Modernization, Co-Creation and Consistency & Harmonization.

Chair/Co-Chair Names

The COAC Trade Co-Chairs are Mary Ann Comstock, UPS Supply Chain Solutions and Susie Hoeger Abbott Laboratories. The government subcommittee Co-Chairs are Cynthia Whittenburg, Executive Director, Executive Director Brenda Smith and Carol Cave, Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC/ Vice chair to the Border Interagency Executive Council (BIEC)).

Number of Subcommittee participants from COAC

The One U.S. Government at the Border Subcommittee is comprised of 12 COAC members.

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Meetings

The 1USG subcommittee met February 27th, March 13th, March 27th, May 1st and is expected to meet on May 15th and June 5th, to further discuss priorities that the Border Interagency Executive Council (BIEC) may address during this calendar year and how the 1USG subcommittee can assist. On May 7th the subcommittee leadership is expected meet with Domenic Veneziano, Director Division of Import Operations to discuss a collaborative project between COAC, FDA and CBP on improving data quality under the purview of the COAC.

Current working groups under subcommittee

Import Mapping Working Group (IMWG)

- Earlier this quarter, Executive Director Smith proposed that the subcommittee might want to consider an exercise that the export mapping working group performed earlier this term which was to draw a picture and identify where the pain points are to use as a visual for these Partner Government Agencies and will be a tool for the COAC to express where the pain points are in the import process for the trade community.
- The COAC 1USG subcommittee members were receptive to this proposal and the working group was established after the March 27th subcommittee meeting.
- The 1USG Import Mapping Working group met on April 4th, April 14th, April 21st, May 1st and expected to meet on May 8th to develop education packages related to the import processes in the Ocean, Rail, Truck, Air Cargo, and Express Courier environments to be used as a tool to educate members of the various Border Inter-Agency Executive Council Committee members as to how the trade community operates. This mapping is being done from the perspective of the trade community. This project may conclude in time for the June 4th BIEC Senior Principles meeting.

1USG Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Working Group

Update:

- The FDA working group was in hiatus since the November 15th 2013 public COAC meeting but a special project will be tasked to the working group before the May 22nd public meeting. At the request of FDA, CBP will seek COAC's assistance and recommendations regarding how to improve data quality reported to both FDA and CBP before the implementation of our Single Window. Currently up to 25% of data reported has known quality errors and FDA is seeking advisement from COAC through CBP on how this quality can be improved.
- Previously the working group formulated recommendations in the areas of advance data reporting, single window, the need for common definition of data elements between agencies, the harmonization of exam protocols between agencies, incorporating the FDA and PGAs into the Centers of Excellence and Expertise as well as other general recommendations.

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- Most of the prior working group recommendations were broadened in scope to be applicable to other Partner Government Agencies. Only recommendation #5 of the November 15th COAC 1USG recommendations were specific and unique to the FDA.

Previous Subcommittee Work

1USG Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Working Group

Update:

- As of the November 15th Public COAC meeting, the EPA working group has concluded its work.
- The EPA working group did not have any EPA specific recommendations to present at the November 15th public meeting. Most of the 1USG Subcommittee recommendations were broadened to include PGA's such as EPA.
- During the last year, the working group trade members were successful in providing feedback to the Environmental Protection Agency and CBP regarding EPA's pilot using the Partner Government Agency Message Set (PGA-MS). Both the EPA and Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS) pilots will commence after the ACE Deployment "A" launched November 2, 2013. The EPA pilot incorporates feedback from the COAC EPA working group among input from other trade groups such as the Trade Support Network participants.

2013 Trade Efficiency Survey PGA Analysis Review Team

- Members of the 1USG subcommittee assisted with the analysis of the 2013 Trade Efficiency Survey results and plan to present these results to the BIEC at the appropriate time.

Highlights

Accomplishments:

- The 1USG subcommittee presented seven recommendations at the November 15, 2013 Public COAC meeting which were unanimously adopted by the COAC membership.
- The 1USG FDA Working Group met with FDA representatives regarding the work of the COAC working group and FDA/CBP were receptive to working group feedback.
- Following discussion with the COAC 1USG EPA working group the EPA was able to change the EPA PGA MS samples and guidelines in the areas of eliminating repeating entity information, elimination of parallel data elements, and the elimination of data elements. This has proven to be a win-win for both the private sector and the government agencies.

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Next Steps

The subcommittee in conjunction with the export subcommittee will soon formally present their Master Principle Documents for a One U.S. Government at the Border and related education packages to the various BIEC committees. The appropriate COAC subcommittees will be utilized on an ongoing basis to help further accomplish strategic goals of the BIEC and ITDS mission.